

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000V
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T RANGOON 1626

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR CVIS BM
SUBJ: BURMESE AMBASSADOR'S DESIRE TO EMIGRATE TO U.S.

REF: LONDON 9087

1. ASIDE FROM THE INCONVENIENCE OF LIVING IN RETIREMENT IN THE MIDST OF AN APPALLING ECONOMIC MESS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE U CHIT MYAING'S PERSONAL SAFETY WOULD BE ENDANGERED SHOULD HE RETURN TO BURMA. THE VERY SCOPE OF THE RESHUFFLE OF BURMESE AMBASSADORS ABROAD, NEARLY ALL OF WHOM WILL BE RETIRED ON RETURN, HELPS RULE OUT ANY INTENTION TO VICTIMIZE INDIVIDUALS AMONG THEM. UNLESS U CHIT MYAING HAS BEEN UPTO SOME MISCHIEF WHICH WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT, IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT HE WOULD BE DETAINED UPON RETURN.

2. FROM POINT OF VIEW OF U.S.-BURMESE RELATIONS, I WOULD PREFER THAT CHIT MYAING (OR OTHER DEFECTORS FROM GUB) NOT GO TO U.S. AT SAME TIME, GUB RESENTMENT OF SUCH CASES WOULD FOCUS ON THE DEFECTOR AND NOT ON USG, SO THAT WE DO NOT OBJECT TO ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO DEFECTORS WHO QUALIFY FOR THEM. SINCE U CHIT MYAING IS NOT CURRENTLY ENTITLED TO IMMIGRANT STATUS, SEE NO REASON FOR ANY SPECIAL FAVORS FOR HIM, EXCEPT THAT IT HAS BEEN OUR PGICY TO CONCUR IN WAIVER OF DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR BURMESE ABROAD WHO ARE OTHERWISE QUALIFIED TO RECEIVE VISAS.

3. IN INFORMING U CHIT MYAING OF HIS INELIGIBILITY, LONDON MAY

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WISH TO PASS ON OUR VIEW THAT HIS PERSONAL SAFETY IS NOT AT STAKE.

4. IF U CHIT MYAING APPEARS DISPOSED TO TALK, AND ESPECIALLY IF
HE PROCEEDS WITH HIS PLANS TO DEFECT AND SEEK PERMISSION TO
REMAIN IN UK OR THIRD COUNTRY, WE WOULD
BE VERY MUCH INTERESTED
IN ANY INFORMATION HE MIGHT PROVIDE ON NE WIN'S ACTIVITIES DURING
HIS FREQUENT VISITS TO U.K., AS WELL AS NE WIN'S HEALTH AND HIS
FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN U.K. AND EUROPE. FYI: IT IS OFTEN ASSUMED
HERE, THOUGH WE KNOW OF NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE ASSUMPTION,
THAT U CHIT MYAING AS AMBASSADOR HAS HELPED ADMINISTER NE WIN'S
ASSETS IN U.K.
OSBORN

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